(b) and (c) No change pertaining to the terephatalic acid was made in the Notification issued on 10th January, 1986. TPA was transferred from the list of Actual User (OGL) to the Appendix of Limited Permissible Items category vide Public Notice No. 7-ITC(PN)/85—88, dated 29th May, 1985, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

(d) and (e) Necessary consultations were held with the concerned Departments.

Replacement of old tea bushes

*127. SHRI O. J. JOSEPH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that almost 40 per cent of the tea bushes in the country are over 50 years old and need replacement to avoid import of tea by 2000 A.D.; and

(b) if so, what measures are being taken to avoid such a situation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

It is true that a large percentage of tea bushes in India are very old since organised tea plantation was started about a 100 years back. Government is fully aware of the importance of extension, replantation and replacement of tea bushes to increase production. An are of about 1.33 lakh hectares out of total area uder tea of 3.98 lakh hectare has been covered under such measures from 1950 to 1984. In addition to this in hilly area, where replanting may be costly and difficult, large scale rejuvenation, pruning and infilling has been carried out.

These are among the measures which have led to increase in tea production from 285 Million Kgs. in 1951 to 657 M.Kgs. in 1985.

The main constraint in expediting the pace of replanting has been the crop loss on account of gestation priod of tea bushes. Tea industry has been reluctant to cut the old bushes in years of high prices and there has been a problem of funds in years of poor prices.

Tea Board has been operating Replantation Subsidy Scheme to compensate for crop loss. Recently a Scheme has been sanctioned to allow tax free carry over of profits deposited with NABARD for use in years of poor profitability for these activities.

Impact of modernisation of textile industry on employment

*128. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps to ensure that modernisation of the textile industry does not lead to unemployment; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b) Modernisation is not likely to result in increased unemployment in the Textile industry because in the absence of modernisation, more mills are likely to fall sick and close down, resulting in greater unemployment.

*129. [*Transferred to the 13th March, 1986*]

ITDC hotels in Delhi

*130. SHRI P. N. SUKUL:

DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rooms in the hotels under the India Tourism Development Corporation in the Union Territory of Delhi; and

(b) the number of rooms in these hotels which have been rented out

to public and private undertakings as on the 31st December, 1985?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) There are 2,724 rooms in the hotels under the India Tourism Development Corporation in the Union Territory of Delhi.

(b) As on 31st December, 1985, 469 Rooms in these hotels were rented out to public and private undertakings.

Export of cotton

*131. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to step up the export of cotton during this season despite opposition from the textile industry; if so, what are the reasons therefor and what is the volume of exports proposed; and

(b) what is Government's estimate of cotton production and consumption by the industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Decisions with regard to export of cotton are taken by the Government after taking into account the demand and supply of position of cotton in the country and the prevailing market trend of its prices. After reviewing the demand and supply position etc. in the country the Government of India have released for export a quantity of 10 lakh bales of long and extra long staple cotton, 52000 bales of Bengal Deshi and 25000 bales of yellow pickings during the current cotton season.

(b) As per the estimates available the total availability of cotton during the current cotton season (Sept. 85—August 86) is estimated at about 118.40 lakh bales. This includes a carry over stock of 24.40 lakh bales from the previous cotton season. As against this, the total consumption of cotton during the current cotton season is estimated at about 91.65 lakh bales.

Mica exports

*132. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the quantity of mica exported since the formation of Mica Trading Corporation and what was the quantity of exports of Number Six Variety and waste mica during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): Exports of processed Mica and from India after formation of Mica Trading Corporation of India (MITCO) in June, 1974 have been as follows:—

Year	Quantity (in tonnes)	Value (in Rs. Crores)
1974-75	34,190	18·62
1975-76	16,120	14·72
1976-77	14,430	17·67
1977-78	14,910	18·75
1978-79	14,670	19·23
1979-80	18,850	22·81
1980-81	16,270	21·15
1981-82	14,760	28·13
1982-83	11,750	21·58
1983-84	10,800	24·22
1984-85	17,980	25·62